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the various classes of delinquents are fully described. The introduction is followed by a history of the manuscript itself, a full list of the commissioners, a schedule of the meetings held, and a record of attendance. In appendix 1. are given the laws of New York relating to the powers and duties of the commissioners in dealing with the Loyalists and other offenders under their jurisdiction. Appendix 11. is devoted to transcripts of the financial accounts of the entire body of commissioners which are believed to be substantially complete. In appendix 111. are printed the first general commission to the commissioners in 1778, sample oaths required of Loyalists to prove their allegiance to the state, a certification of Tories, and an order of exchange of a Loyalist for a patriot prisoner. The work is illustrated by six fine facsimiles taken from various parts of the original minutes.

A third volume will constitute an analytical index. This volume has not yet come from the press. If the indexing is done in as thorough and as scholarly a manner as the editing of the text, this work as a whole will take a very high rank among the printed archives of the Empire State. It is a matter of congratulation to those interested in historical work that the great commonwealth of New York has secured the services of an accurate historian to discharge its serious obligation of preserving, arranging, and preparing for publication its wealth of historical material still unprinted.

ALEXANDER CLARENCE FLICK.

Report on "The Star-Spangled Banner", "Hail Columbia", "America", "Yankee Doodle". Compiled by Oscar George Theodore Sonneck, Chief of the Division of Music, Library of Congress. (Washington: Government Printing Office. 1909. Pp. 255.)

This is a most important contribution to the history of American music. Although modestly stated as "compiled", the volume is much more than a compilation. In fact the expression of the author's individual views as to the relative popularity of "Yankee Doodle" and "Dixie" has caused some flurry of criticism in the press. We have no more careful investigator in the field of American music than Mr. Sonneck, and the subject he here undertakes certainly requires all his powers. In no field of music is there so much doubt and vagueness as in the evolution of great national melodies. "God save the King" has caused volumes of research and its origin has not been surely established yet. The "Marseillaise" has also caused many arguments. National music is far too often enshrouded in pseudo-history or in absolute fiction.

Mr. Sonneck has carefully sifted the false from the true and even if, at times, he has not discovered the history of the song, as for example in the case of "Yankee Doodle", he has at least cleared the field of its many errors, for which future historians will thank him. Incidentally also, he has given most interesting side-lights upon some of

the lesser characters connected with the creation of the songs. Dr. Beanes, who was the occasion of Francis Scott Key's expedition to the British fleet, Johannes, or Philip, Roth, connected with "The President's March" which led to "Hail Columbia", Dr. Schuckburgh who has been considered the founder of "Yankee Doodle", Gilbert Fox who first sang "Hail Columbia", all these stand out as living characters and not mere shadows upon the historic page.

In "Yankee Doodle" Mr. Sonneck has had the assistance of one of the most indefatigable investigators of America, Mr. Albert Matthews of Boston, whose researches in this matter still remain unpublished, but are generously and freely placed at the disposal of investigators.

Let us briefly sum up the results of the search for the origin of our national songs. "The Star-Spangled Banner", written by Key, was probably composed by John Stafford Smith, in England, as a drinking song.

"Hail Columbia" was composed as "The President's March" probably by Philip Phile, although this claim is not yet free from doubt and the very name of Phile is not surely ascertained. Philip Roth (first name doubtful) also remains a claimant to the honor of having composed this melody. Joseph Hopkinson wrote the words.

"America" is fortunately taken quite out of the field of doubt. It was written to the tune of "God save the King", by Samuel F. Smith, then a theological student at Andover, for a children's Fourth of July festival at Park Street Church.

"Yankee Doodle" remains enshrouded in mystery. There is some doubt as to whether Dr. Schuckburgh wrote the words which brought the tune into notice in America. There are dozens of variants of these words. The tune cannot be traced to its origin. Mr. Sonneck begins to think that the modern form of the melody is a composite made up of two different tunes of different epochs. Absolutely nothing has been ascertained regarding the origin of the melody, and here the amount of careless statement, of invention and unreliable "recollections", is disheartening. Yet Mr. Sonneck has at least disposed of many of the errors and cleared the field for further investigation.

Many excellent facsimiles adorn the book, a few misprints mar it, and it has an excellent index.

Louis C. Elson.

Robert Fulton and the "Clermont". By ALICE CRARY SUTCLIFFE, Great-Granddaughter of the Inventor. (New York: The Century Company. 1909. Pp. xv, 367.)

THE writer of this book seems at times to feel her limitations on the technical side of her great-grandfather's life, but she has nevertheless produced a biography of singular charm and interest in an astonishingly brief compass. It is a model in its way. She has per-